

25X1A

## **INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

COUNTRY	Germany (Russian Zone)	DATE DISTR.	14 Sept. 1951
SUBJECT	Nickel Wire Screen Production at Baderschneider und Lenzner, Zeulenroda	NO. OF PAGES	3
PLACE	25X1A	NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	
ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]		
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	25X1X

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2. The Baderschneider und Lenzner plant has a total of about 170 employees. These are engaged in the production of the following two types of screen: Fine nickel wire screen No. 231 and screen of sizes up to No. 200 for industrial uses in both East and West Germany. At the end of June 1951, ninety weavers of the total number of workers were engaged exclusively in the production of nickel wire screen No. 231 with 29 looms operating on three shifts per day, Sundays and holidays excluded. About 80 persons were engaged in the production of the coarser screen, with 11 looms operating, and in work in offices, repair shops, stockrooms, etc. No. 231 screen is manufactured exclusively for the Russians. The rougher screen is for use in the German chemical, pharmaceutical, paper, and other industries. In June 1951, the plant was producing No. 120 phosphorus bronze screen 0.07 mm thick, for the Georg Meierthaler firm in Koeln-Lindenthal Rueckortstrasse 5, for a total value of 9,500 DM; the wire for this screen had been procured in Western Germany. For monetary reasons, the Russians encourage the sale of rough screen to West German firms.

3. Among the 29 looms producing No. 231 screen, 8 looms produce screen with a width of 1.20 m, and 21 with a width of 1.00 m. Late in June 1951, 24 of the 29 looms producing No. 231 screen were still operating with reeds made of Swedish reed material, whereas 5 looms were operating with reeds made from Russian material. At that time, the plant had a reserve of 6 reeds made from Russian material but no reserves of reeds made from Swedish material. The average life span of a reed made from Swedish material is three Zettel of approximately 900 square meters (slightly more in the case of 1.20 m-wide screen). The maximum life span of a reed made from Russian material is one Zettel, or 300 square meters; the average life span, which Source could not indicate definitely, is

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certainly far below the maximum. In some instances, it was necessary to remove reeds made from Russian material after weaving lengths of 10 and 12 meters. At the end of June 1951, the reed situation looked critical, because the reed-manufacturing plant TMA-Neustadt/Orla was unable to deliver on time the reed-replacements required by the Zeulenroda plant. [REDACTED] a number 25X1X of reeds made from Swedish material, still in operation and essential to production, will have to be removed from the looms by late summer, and production will be reduced appreciably, if the manufacture of reeds is not resumed shortly in its former volume.

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[REDACTED] in 1950, the Zeulenroda plant had a Russian order for the production of 18,000 square meters of No. 231 screen. This order, which was transmitted to the plant by the DDR government, was filled by 22 December 1950. Actual production exceeded the size of this order; in 1950, the plant produced and delivered approximately 20,000 meters of No. 321 screen. For the production of this quantity of screen, less than one-half of the plant's screen-producing looms were put in operation, i.e., less than 15 looms. In September 1950, the plant received a new order, this time from TMA-Neustadt, for the production of 30,000 square meters of No. 231 screen to be produced in 1951. As far as Source remembers, in May 1951, this order was increased by a new order requesting the production of an additional 7,000 square meters of this screen in 1951. The total of 37,000 square meters is to be completed by 25 November 1951. So far, no new order is known to have been received for the production of this type of screen beyond this date. By mid-June 1951, the plant had delivered between 18,000 and 20,000 square meters of its 1951 production of No. 231 screen. If reed manufacture can catch up with the plant's requirements for reed replacements, the firm will fill its 1951 production order with ease within the prescribed period of time.

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5. The percentage of rejected material in the nickel screen production at Zeulenroda has been low. Late in June 1951, it amounted to 1 to 2 percent of the total nickel screen output. [REDACTED] 5.5 meters of screen as the average daily output of one loom, regardless of width (1 meter or 1.2 meter).
6. The Zeulenroda plant has been visited periodically by the Russians Malilov(fnu) and Pryodka(fnu). They have come to the plant regularly two and three times per month, sometimes more often. Miller(fnu) and Schulz(fnu), two German engineers, are present at the plant Mondays through Fridays. They are paid by the Soviet Control Commission. They are assigned to testing the finished screen through magnifying glass over an "illuminated table" (Leuchttisch).
7. Up to 9 July 1951, the plant was guarded by three night watchmen employed by the company. In mid-June 1951, a police captain and a police major appeared showing credentials signed by Minister (sic) Weinberger\*\*. They stated that the plant was insufficiently guarded and announced that the German police would shortly arrange for an increase of security personnel. On 9 July, a German police official arrived with three police guards to assume guard duty at the plant. The three night watchmen who had formerly performed this duty remained at the plant, together with the added security personnel which is permanently stationed on the plant premises.

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8. [REDACTED]

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a. [REDACTED]

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